

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 ACDA-19 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8083

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS:PFOR, EC, DA,US

SUBJ: BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S BRIEFING ON EC MINISTERIAL

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SUMMARY: BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE BRIEFED FOUR BELGIAN

JOURNALISTS, INCLUDING USEC REP ECCLES, AT CONCLUSION FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING ON NOV. 20. AS THIS IS MOST CANDID AND COHERENT ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS YET AVAILABLE, EMBASSY IS TRANSMITTING IT IN TOTO.

END SUMMARY.

1. TODAY WE HAVE DEMONSTRATED THAT OUR COMMON DECLARATION OF NOVEMBER 6 WAS NOT A ONE-DAY WONDER BUT THE BEGINNINGS OF A COMMON POLICY TOWARDS THE MIDDLE EAST. PRIOR TO THAT, WE HAD SPOKEN WITH ONE VOICE AT HELSINKI ON DETENTE AND WILL ACT LIKEWISE IN DEFINING OUR IDENTITY VIS A VIS THE U.S. TODAY WE HAVE REACHED AN ACCORD ON CONDUCTING A DIPLOMATIC ACTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AS A WHOLE, IN THE NAME OF THE NINE, AND THE GOVTS WILL BE WATCHING FURTHER POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENTS IN THAT AREA. IT IS NOT A MERE MATTER OF OIL. PEACE IS AT LEAST AS IMPORTANT. WE WANT A GLOBAL APPROACH TO ALL THE PROBLEMS THERE. ENERGY IS A COMMUNITY MATTER, TO BE DEALT WITH BY THE COMMUNITY'S OWN INSTITUTIONS AND WE DO NOT WANT TO CREATE A CONFUSION OF RESPONSIBILITIES. IN OUR DIPLOMATIC ACTION, WE WANT TO USE THE EXISTING DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. WE HAVE NOT APPOINTED A SPECIAL ENVOY. SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE HOSTILITIES, THE DIPLOMATS OF THE MEMBER STATES IN THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE TOUCH, BRIEFING EACH OTHER, AND WORKING HAND-IN-HAND. THAT MACHINERY IS NOW RUNNING WELL, AND THE AMBASSADORS THERE HENCEFORTH WILL SPEAK, WITH THE NECESSARY FLEXIBILITY, IN THE NAME OF THE NINE.

2. ON THE JOINT EC-US DECLARATION, SOME POINTS REMAIN UNDER DISCUSSION AMONG THE NINE, AND SOME OTHERS BETWEEN THE NINE AND THE US. THE MATTER IS BEING REFERRED BACK TO THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE, AND THERE WILL HAVE TO BE AT LEAST ONE, AND POSSIBLY TWO FURTHER MEETINGS WITH MR. STOESEL. THE NINE MAY MEET AGAIN ON THE SUBJECT AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL; BETWEEN THEMSELVES FIRST AND WITH THE US REPRESENTATIVES AFTERWARDS, DURING THE FORTHCOMING NATO MINISTERIAL.

3. ON THE SUMMIT IN DECEMBER, WE (THE BELGIANS) HAVE MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT THE MEETING SHOULD NOT BE VIEWED AS SETTING A PRECEDENT. NOR SHOULD THE SUMMIT DEAL WITH SPECIFIC COMMUNITY PROBLEMS, SINCE THEY BELONG TO THE COMMUNITIES OWN INSTITUTIONS. (VAN ELSLANDE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EVIDENTLY MEANS THAT SUMMIT SHOULD CONFINE ITSELF TO POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS, OUTSIDE FRAMEWORK OF ROME TREATY.) ON PARTICIPATION OF FOREIGN MINISTERS IN THE SUMMIT, WE HAVE INDICATED THAT WE WOULD LIKE THEM TO GATHER WITH THE HEAD OF STATE AND HEADS OF GOVT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING, SO AS TO DISCUSS THE HOWS AND WHENS OF THEIR FURTHER PARTICIPATION IN THE DEBATE. A MOST IMPORTANT POINT IN OUR (THE BELGIANS) VIEW IS A DISCUSSION ON THE FUTURE INSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS IN THE CONTEXT OF EMU

(EUROPAN MONETARY UNION). ONE CANNOT IMAGINE ANY FUTURE SUMMIT
WITHOUT THIS POINT FOREMOST ON THE AGENDA.
IF WE WANT TO HAVE A BLUEPRINT FOR EMU BY 1975, AND ITS FULL
IMPLEMENTATION BY 1980,IT IS URGENT TO BEGIN WORKING THESE THINGS
OUT.
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